

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Amendments shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter).

Claims

1. (currently amended) Fluorescent lamp adapted for cold environments, which comprises: an elongated main tube, a fixing device at each end of the fluorescent lamp for fixing the fluorescent lamp in a light fitting, two electrodes provided with emitter material placed inside the main tube, a heat-insulating outer tube that surrounds the main tube and creates an airspace between the main tube and the outer tube in order to insulate the main tube of the fluorescent lamp from a cold surrounding atmosphere, each fixing device comprising an end cap with a radial part, that delimits an outer end plane of the fluorescent lamp, and with an axial peripheral part, the axial peripheral part of the end cap being connected to an end of the outer tube and further comprising ~~an~~ one-piece axial spacer made entirely of a material with low heat conductivity which has a first end part which holds and centers ~~that is connected to~~ an end of the main tube and a second end part that adjoins the said outer end plane and keeps the main tube separate from the end cap in order to reduce the transmission of heat from the main tube to the end cap and the outer tube, wherein the second end part of the spacer has a plurality of outwardly radially-projecting guide elements, against which the end of the outer tube abuts, adhesive filler material being disposed between said guide elements and joining said spacer, end cap and outer tube to each other in order to make easier the assembly of the outer tube and the end cap when assembling the fluorescent lamp.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) Fluorescent lamp according to claim 1, wherein the guide element is in the shape of a plurality of radial lugs distributed around the circumference.